

RANCHERS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Box 6217 / 1776 Montano Road, N.W. / Albuquerque, New Mexico 87197 / Telephone (505) 344-3542

OIL, GAS & MINING

January 25, 1980

State of Utah Department of Natural Resources Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining 1588 West North Temple Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

ATTN: Ronald W. Daniels

Coordinator of Mined Land Development

RE: Surety Contract

Dear Ron:

In accordance with our conversations, enclosed is one copy of the Mined Land Reclamation Contract to which the corporate seal has been applied and which has been attested.

Very truly yours,

RANCHERS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

James M. Rosel

Assistant Vice President and Assistant Secretary

JMR/nlp Encl.

MINED LANDS RECLAMATION CONTRACT

THIS CONTRACT, made and entered into this day of 1980, between RANCHERS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, a corporation duly authorized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New Mexico, as party of the first part, and hereinafter called the Operator, and the BOARD OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING, duly authorized and existing by virtue of the laws of the State of Utah, as party of the second part, and hereinafter called the Board.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Operator is the lessor and in possession of certain mining claims and/or leases known as the "Escalante" Silver Mine, more particularly described in the Notice of Intent and Reclamation Plan heretofore submitted, and

WHEREAS, the Operator did, in August of 1979, file with the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, a "Notice of Intention to Commence Mining Operations" and a "Mining and Reclamation Plan" to secure authorization to engage in mining operations in the State of Utah, under the terms and provisions of the Mined Land Reclamation Act, Section 40-8, UCA, 1953; and

WHEREAS, at the final cessation of mining operations, the Operator is able and willing to reclaim the lands affected in accordance with the approved mining and reclamation plan, the Mined Land Reclamation Act and the rules and regulations previously adopted in accordance therewith; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the factual information and recommendations provided by the staff of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining as to the magnitude, type and costs of the approved reclamation activities planned for the land affected; and

WHEREAS, the Board is cognizant of the nature, extent, duration of operations, the financial status of the Operator and its capabilities of carrying out the planned work;

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants of the parties by each of the other made and herein contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Operator shall reclaim the land affected in accordance with the approved Mining and Reclamation Plan, the Mined Land Reclamation

Act, and the Rules and Regulations previously adopted in accordance therewith.

 The Board, in lieu of the posting of a bond or other surety, accepts the corporate guarantee of the Operator to reclaim the land affected.

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RANCHERS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ATTEST:

Assistant Secretary

Bv

Herbert M. Campbel/

Vice President

(SEAL)

BOARD OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

By 6 R Handerson Chairman